

Press Release

**Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner
618 S. Kansas Avenue
Topeka, Kansas 66603-3804**

Date of Release: June 18, 2004

Manhattan Resident Sentenced to Securities Fraud Charges

Topeka, Kansas-- Manhattan resident Greta Ann Commerford, 55, was sentenced today in Riley County Court by the Hon. David L. Stutzman, District Judge. Commerford was sentenced to 19 months in prison and granted immediate probation with community corrections for 60 months. As conditions of probation Commerford was ordered to serve 30 days in the Riley County jail; ordered not to possess or consume illegal drugs; submit to random drug test; serve 100 hours of community service; gain or maintain verifiable full-time employment; notify supervising officer of change of employment, residence, and telephone; have no contact with victims of the crime; abide by a curfew at the discretion of the supervising officer, which may be monitored electronically; abide by all federal, state and local firearm laws; submit regular monthly payments until all court costs, probation fees and restitution have been paid in full; comply with all D.N.A. submission requirements, pursuant to K.S.A. 21-2511; defendant shall not have signature authority of any account except one held jointly with her spouse. The court will set a restitution amount by separate order.

On May 3, 2004, Commerford [pled guilty](#) in Riley County District Court to one count of Felony Securities Fraud.

The case was prosecuted by Kansas Securities Commissioner Chris Biggs with the cooperation of the Riley County Attorney's Office. Biggs alleged that Commerford used her position as a registered representative of American Express Financial Services Advisors, Incorporated to steal over \$100,000 from investors with a fraudulent stock scheme.

The Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner is charged with administration and enforcement of the Kansas Securities Act under Chapter 17 of the Kansas Statutes. The Office investigates and prosecutes securities fraud, the offer or sale of unregistered securities and the offer or sale of securities by unlicensed stockbrokers or investment advisers. For more information and investor education resources, visit <http://www.securities.state.ks.us>.